

May 23, 1983

LB 629

SENATOR LANDIS: The motion failed. The bill is not returned. Are there additional motions on LB 629? Senator Marsh, for what purpose do you arise?

SENATOR MARSH: I rise to call a special meeting of the Executive Board underneath the North balcony for one item of business at this time please.

SENATOR LANDIS: You have heard Senator Marsh call the Executive Board under the North balcony. Mr. Clerk, the next motion on LB 629.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator DeCamp would move to return the bill.

SENATOR LANDIS: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, the amendment is eminently simple and I guess I think slightly responsible. It simply says July 1, 1984, state employees will get a 6% increase, July 1, 1985, another 5%, July 1, 1986, another 5%. They know where they stand for the next three years. We know where we stand. There is no expenditure this year. When we come in January we plan around that particular budget problem. I had planned to offer this proposal in January. When I saw that Senator Warner and some of the others wanted to still take up state employees issues this year, I thought it appropriate to offer it at this time. Let me say to Senator Higgins, Senator Higgins, I hope that your absolute and ultimate decision to always vote against me, no matter what, as I interpreted it, would also consider possibly the merits of some of the issues that might come up over the next two, four years, whatever we are together, and I have suggested that when one group or another in here, whether it is Republicans or Democrats votes as a block, I don't think it is improper whatsoever to suggest that they are voting as a block. The best example were during the Thone years when I pointed out repeatedly, repeatedly, that we were voting as a block and there is no big surprise in that. The Democrats very frequently have a position on things and the Republicans have a position on things and sometimes those positions are in disagreement, and to point out that that situation exists doesn't seem that I should be condemned to the fires of Hell or the wrath of Marge Higgins forever. If you think the amendment has merit, I would suggest you vote for it. If you think it is a bummer, I would suggest you vote against it. If you think I am a bum, that is not a basis for voting against the amendment and, finally, I would submit that it seems the point of personal privilege has been the most singly abused item